

# METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING TUBERS WITH A POWDERED ORGANIC COMPOUND

## ABSTRACT

5 The present invention provides both a process and apparatus for treating tubers  
in storage with chlorpropham (CIPC) dust or the dust of any other similar organic  
compound. The process includes the steps of forming minute particles of solid CIPC  
particles from a larger block or chunks of solid CIPC, and inducting the particles into an  
airstream which transports the particles to a tuber storage shed. For a preferred  
embodiment of the invention, the blocks or chunks of solid CIPC are fed into a hammer  
10 mill or like apparatus, which pulverizes the solid CIPC. Insufficiently fine particles are  
returned to the mill for further pulverization. Fine powder consisting of particles, each of  
which has a major dimension of less than about 5 micrometers, is transported by the  
ducted airstream from the separator to a storage shed containing a pile of tubers. The  
powder filters through the pile and coats exposed surfaces of the exposed tubers.